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STATEMENT

BY THE

MISSOURI DELEGATION IN THE 39TH CONGRESS.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

WASHINGTON, D. C., *March 8, 1866.*

SIR: The undersigned, members of Congress from the State of Missouri, desire to present to you the following statement of facts in reference to the bill which is now offered by the Senate for the consideration of the House, entitled a bill "*To reimburse the State of Missouri for moneys expended in enrolling, equipping and provisioning military forces to aid in suppressing the rebellion,*" the same having passed the Senate unanimously, without amendment.

In the spring of 1861, say from May to August there were organized in the State of Missouri, by Generals Lyon and Fremont, a large number of irregular companies which were known as "*Home Guards,*" in localities where loyal men needed arms to defend themselves and the authority of the Government against treason. This was done prior to the formation of the loyal Provisional State Government, and for their payment Congress passed an act March 25, 1862, (U. S. Vol. 12, p. 374) resulting in their all being paid by U. S. Paymasters. These troops were never organized or paid by the State authorities. The claim which is presented is for expenses incurred by the *State* in the support and payment of State troops raised since August, 1861.

In the summer of 1861, the United States forces raised in Missouri, and which were brought there from other States were quite to the task of repelling the invasion of the State and suppressing the then existing insurrection therein. The disloyal authorities had retreated with the rebel forces from almost all of the State, and the *State convention*, which was to be by a disloyal legislature in the early part of the *purpose of secession*, but which proved to be possessed of the *loyalty of loyal men*, had therefore the charge and administration of the government of the State.

The convention organized a Provisional Government, having declared all the offices of the disloyal government vacant, and caused them to be filled with loyal men; and furthermore, caused the governor to call for such number of militia, and for such length of time as should be deemed necessary for the purpose of maintaining the power of the Federal government and the loyal State government, and to co-operate with the United States troops already in the State for that purpose.

SIX MONTHS MILITIA OF 1861.

On the 24th of August, 1861, the Governor did, by his proclamation, call for a force of volunteer militia for the period of six months, unless peace should be sooner restored.

In answer to this call a force of 94 companies, containing about six thousand men was immediately raised, and served until December, 1861, when it was reorganized and merged into the ten regiments of "*Missouri State Militia*" which were mustered into the United States service "for three years or the war" under an arrangement between the Governor and President Lincoln, subsequently ratified by Congress. (See 12 vol, p. 339, sec. 3, act of February 16, 1862.) This force was subsisted, clothed, equipped and paid by the State for services rendered prior to the date above mentioned, by an issue of small State bonds authorized by order of the convention, denominated "defense warrants," which warrants were to be receivable for all taxes due the State, and drew no interest. Of this class of warrants there have been issued and paid out (\$1,463,575,) *one million for hundred and seventy-six thousand five hundred and seventy-five dollars.*

ENROLLED MISSOURI MILITIA OF 1862, 3 AND 4.

The Convention in June, 1862, believing it necessary, in order to save the State, that a perfect organization of all the loyal men be had, authorized the governor to cause every man to be enrolled and ordered into active service, whenever necessary! This was done, the loyal men being separately enrolled, and constituting what has been known as the "*Enrolled Missouri Militia*." It is for payments made for the services and support of these men, and of the "*six months militia*," before mentioned that the State now asks reimbursement. *They have been only used, when called out by the Major General of the United States troops, commanding the department, who has always been the Major General commanding the "Enrolled Missouri Militia." They have been only called out when actually needed by Federal officers, and have always acted in concert with the troops of the United States and under the command of the United States officers.*

From the date of the first order of Maj. Gen. Schofield directing the organization of this force of Enrolled Missouri Militia July 25th, 1862, up to March of last year, there have been more or less thereof constantly upon duty, varying in number according to the exigencies of the service, from seven to ten thousand men. At first the State was compelled to support them entirely, but as the necessity for their services became apparent to the authorities at Washington, orders were procured from the War Department directing issues of supplies to the United States Quartermasters and Commissaries of Subsistence (*viz.*, in January, 1863), of *subsistence and forage* (*viz.*, in June, 1863), of *clothing, camp and garrison equipment, medical supplies*; so that for the last year and a half of these troops were furnished with all the supplies necessary for their maintenance by the General Government.

But they have been wholly paid by the State, as well as entirely supported by it for a portion of the time.

The Legislature passed an act (approved March 9, 1863,) providing for the issue and redemption, by a system of taxation, of a million dollars of "*Union Military Bonds*," in sums of one, two

five, ten, and twenty dollars, bearing six per cent. interest, and payable one year after date; the whole of which was issued and paid out upon proper muster and pay rolls, in accordance with rules and regulations governing like payments in the United States Army.

As the war progressed, however, and the needs of the service required the keeping of a still larger number of this force upon duty, it was found that at the close of the year 1864, the appropriation of three millions above referred to was quite inadequate to the payment of the number of men that had been called out, and consequently in February, 1865, the Legislature, by an act (approved February 20, 1865,) similar in terms to the one passed two years previously, made a further appropriation and directed the issue of *two million dollars* more of "*Union Military Bonds*," the whole of which has been issued and paid out upon the arrearages due the "*Enrolled Missouri Militia*," and still a balance of (\$549,641 98) five hundred and forty-nine thousand, six hundred and forty-one, and $\frac{3}{4}$ dollars is due upon the rolls as shown by the Paymaster General's report now in the hands of your committee.

The State Legislature, which is now in session, has directed a farther issue of these "*Union Military Bonds*," to pay this balance, and also to pay for services rendered by the "*Missouri Militia*" of 1865, called out by Maj. Gen. Dodge, Com'd'g Department of the Missouri, which will amount, as shown by the certificate of the Adjutant General of the State of its strength and length of service (also in the hands of your committee), to at least (\$450,000 00) four hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

The claim of the State as hereinbefore expressed, may therefore be thus briefly,

RECAPITULATED.

Amount of " <i>Defense Warrants</i> " issued and paid out as shown by properly authenticated papers now in the hands of your committee.....	\$1,476,565 00
Amount of " <i>Union Military Bonds</i> " issue of 1863, paid out to " <i>Enrolled Missouri Militia</i> " shown by properly authenticated papers now in the hands of your committee.....	3,000,000 00
Amount of " <i>Union Military Bonds</i> ," issue of 1865, paid out to " <i>Enrolled Missouri Militia</i> " as shown by properly authenticated papers, now in the hands of your committee.....	2,000,000 00
Amount of arrearages due " <i>Enrolled Missouri Militia</i> ," as shown by Paymaster General's official Report and now being paid....	549,641 98
Amount due " <i>Militia of 1865</i> " now being paid, as shown by "Paymaster General's Report" and certificate of "Adjutant General" as to strength and length of service.....	450,000 00
Total.....	7,476,216 98
From this should be deducted the amount of the State's proration of the direct tax imposed under the act of August 5, 1861, and for which the State is to receive credit under the terms of the act approved July 17, 1862, for such sums as were expended by her in supporting her militia (See Vol. 12, p. 600)	761,127 33
	\$6,715,089 65

Leaving balance due the State, which is now claimed, of (\$6,715,089 65) six million seven hundred and fifteen thousand

eighty-nine dollars and sixty-five cents, without taking into account the amount of interest, which has been and is to be paid upon the issues of "*Union Military Bonds*" estimated at \$400,000 00.

We have omitted to embrace in this statement the very many General Orders of United States officers, and the large amount of official correspondence between the United States and State authorities, all going to show the necessity for the expenditures which have been made, because they would lengthen this communication to too great an extent, but a large amount of the evidence is in the hands of your committee and has already been carefully examined by the Military Committee of the Senate.

These evidences all attest the fact that relief was furnished by the State to the General Government, by *the putting into service its own troops, at critical conjunctures, whereby regularly mustered volunteer troops, were rendered disposable and sent to points of imminent danger.*

It is claimed that the right of the State to reimbursement is sufficiently confirmed by the evidences which are produced upon grounds established by many precedents not necessary here to be reviewed.

We would further submit that these advances of money and payments of troops have been made under the most adverse circumstances, at ruinous sacrifice and with signal loyalty.

Forced to an issue of bonds to meet such a drain upon finances already almost overwhelmed with debt, they could only be sold at a great discount, whilst their availability for tax purposes made them in the past, and still continues to make *them* a great embarrassment in the way of collecting any revenue. This almost paralyzes the industrial recuperation of the State, and has necessitated the imposing of such increased taxes on a community torn by the ravages of invasion as its people are little able to bear.

We believe that reimbursement for these advances can with any justice, be longer postponed. As they are part parcel of those *immediate war liabilities*, in the *pay, equip and provisioning of troops*, which the policy of the Government has already established, as having *the first claim upon the treasury of the United States.*

We earnestly desire that the bill may pass the House as an arate measure, in such shape as it may be reported from the committee to which it is referred, for the reason that, as the bill provides, a commission is to be appointed whose duty it shall examine and audit all vouchers which the State has to pay for allowances before any money can be paid.

This will involve months of labor, and hence our anxiety for immediate action will be appreciated.

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

HENRY T. BLOW,	JOHN HOGAN.
BENJ. F. LOAN,	J. F. BENJAMIN;
J. W. McCLURG,	J. R. KELSO,
R. T. VAN HORN,	THOS. E. NOELL.
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